

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Toru NODA et al.

Title: STRATIFIED AIR-FUEL MIXTURE FORMING APPARATUS FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND METHOD THEREOF

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: MAR 16 2003

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The relevance of foreign-language document A1 described in the present specification.

Documents A2-A4 were cited in the International Search Report in Applicants' International Application PCT/JP02/08301. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date MAR 16 2003

By Richard L. Schwaab

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	Unassigned
Date Submitted <b>MAR 16 2003</b>		<b>Filing Date</b>	<b>MAR 16 2003</b>
(use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Toru NODA
Sheet	1	of	1
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	Unassigned
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unassigned
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	054789-0119

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*		Cite No. <sup>1</sup>			Foreign Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)								
A1	JP	11-082028	A		TOYOTA MOTOR CORP.	03-26-1999			Abstract	
A2	JP	1-166271	U		AIHARA ET AL.	11-21-1989			Abstract	
A3	JP	3-3935	A		FUJI HEAVY IND. LTD.	01-10-1991			Abstract	
A4	JP	5-86948	A		MAZDA MOTOR CORP.	04-06-1993			Abstract	

## **NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.